

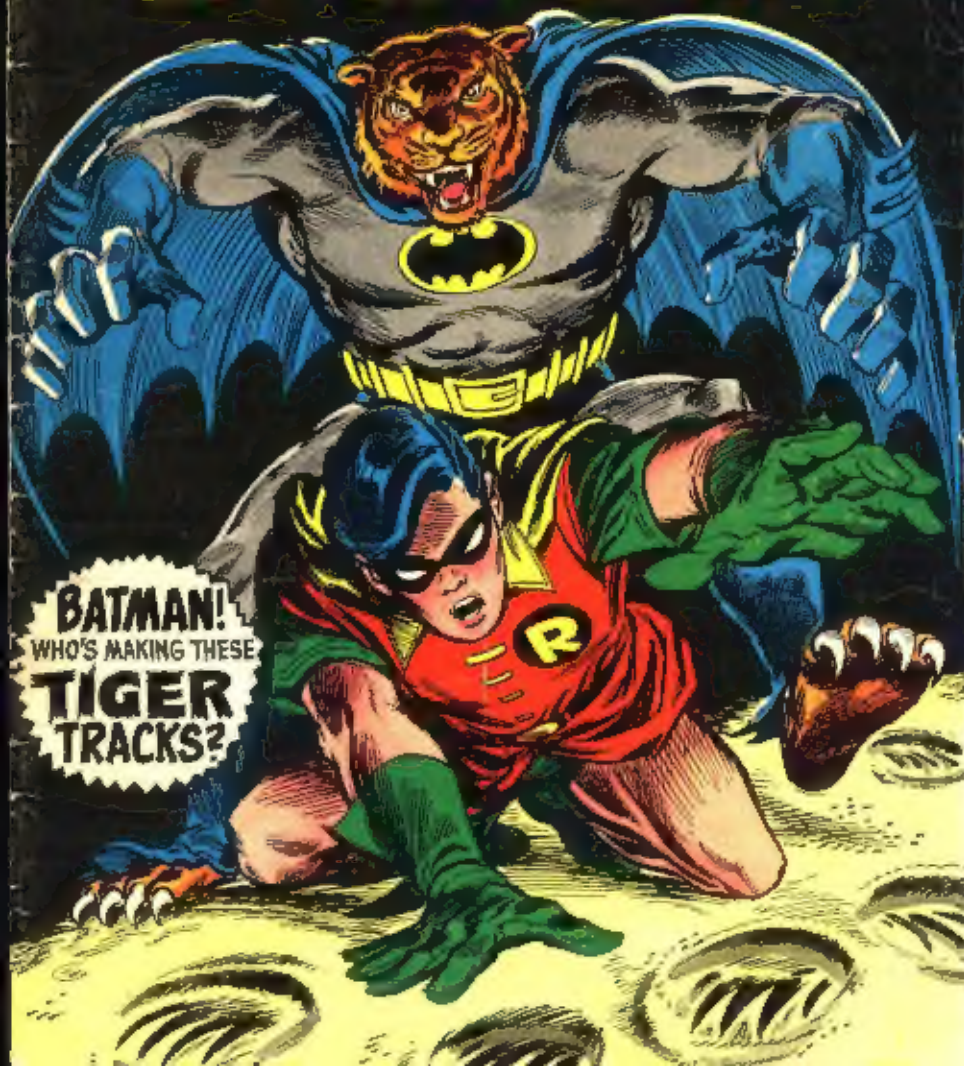


12¢

FEB.
NO. 209



BATMAN



BATMAN!
WHO'S MAKING THESE
TIGER
TRACKS?

SOMETHING TELLS ME
ROBIN... WE BETTER
GET UPSTAIRS IN A HURRY
AND NOTHING MUST
STOP US!

BATMAN

THE NEW YORKER

SKREEEE!

OH, OH!
DITTO,
BRUCE!
BRUCE...?
HEY, WE'VE
FORGOTTEN
TO CHANGE
OUT OF OUR
CRIME-
FIGHTING
OUTFITS!

GO UPSTAIRS
THIS WAY

OTHER THAN
ALFRED
SAW US LIKE
THIS, WE'D
BLOW OUR
SECRET
IDENTITIES
DOWN
WE GO...

BUT AS THE BATCAVE DOOR OPENS

NO...? IT-IT'S
INCREDIBLE,
IMPOSSIBLE!

YOU SEE IT, TOO.[®]
THEN I'M NOT
DREAMING.

WHAT COULD THEY POSSIBLY SEE?
WHAT COULD HAVE TRANSPIRED IN
THEIR SECRET HAVEN IN THE SHORT
TIME THEY WERE IN THE ELEVATOR?

[illegible]

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WHAT
INSANE
SCENE IS
THIS?!

THE FAMOUS BATCAVE...
TRANSFORMED INTO A
MENACING, MONSTER-INHABITED
REALM! WHO...OR WHAT...COULD
HAVE ACCOMPLISHED THIS MALEV-
OLENT, MALEPIC, MEGALOMANIC
MENAGERIE?

**R.R.
RAHR!**



STORY: FRANK ROBBINS

ART: { IRV NOVICK
JOE GIELLA

jungle Jeopardy

BR-*AK* BR-*AK*!

WE'RE IN
THE AFRICAN
JUNGLE!



IT ALL STARTED THE NIGHT BEFORE, AS...



YEAR, WHAT BATMAN
AND ROBIN
ELIMINATION
PROGRAM YOU
GOT THAT'S SO
SPECIAL
BRAINWASH?

THAT'S THE WORD GUNKO...
ELIMINATION! WE DON'T CARE
HOW THE DISASTROUS DVD
GET THEM, AS LONG AS
THEY'RE ELIMINATED!

EVEN IF
YOU DID KNOCK
EM OVER... WHAT
WOULD HAPPEN?
THE HEAT'S ON ALL
OVER GOTHAM...
THE COPS CLOSE
DOWN THE TOWN...
AND WE CAN'T MOVE!

WE GOT TO
ARRANGE FOR B
AND R TO PUT THEM-
SELVES OUT OF ACTION!
FOREVER! NOW
LISTEN...

OBSOLETE!
AND APPARENTLY
TO EVERY TOM, DICK,
AND HARRY WITH
A SPECIAL INTEREST
TO SELL! NOT TO
PUBLIC-MINDED
CITIZENS LIKE...

LIKE YOURSELF?
I ASSURE YOU, SIR...
EVERYONE THINKS HIS
IS THE CAUSE! BUT
PLEASE SIT DOWN...
TELL ME YOUR
PROBLEM?

LATER, THE NEXT DAY...

COMMISSIONER
GORDON - THIS
GENTLEMAN
INSISTS HE
MUST SEE YOU!

INSISTS?
I ASSURE
YOU THAT IS
NOT NECESSARY,
MY GOOD SIR! I
AM A PUBLIC
SERVANT! MY
OFFICE IS
OPEN AT ALL
TIMES!

AS BRAINWASH ENGAGED POLICE COM-
MISSIONER GORDON IN CONVERSATION, HIS
HAND WAS ALSO BUSY

IT'S THIS
PROBLEM OF
"CRIME-IN-THE
STREETS" WHY
MUST WE LAW-
ABIDING
RESPECTABLE
CITIZENS ALWAYS
BE THE "VICTIMS"?

WHILE
GUN-HAPPY
PUNKS TERRORIZE
WHOLE COMMUNITIES?



AT MIDNIGHT, OUT OF A DEAD SLEEP...

"GASP! THE
GOTHAM NATIONAL
IS BEING ROBBED!
GOT TO GET ON THE
HOT-LINE...CALL
BATMAN AND
ROBIN!"

"I'LL TRY THE
BATMOBILE
FIRST... THEY
SHOULD BE ON
PATROL."

"GORDON
TO BATMAN
AND ROBIN!
COME IN!
URGENT!"

"READ YOU LOUD AND
CLEAR, COMMISSIONER!
WE'LL ATTEND TO IT AT
ONCE... OVER AND OUT!"

"WE SURE
SOUNDED
AGITATED
BATMAN!
WE BETTER
HOP TO IT!"

MOMENTS LATER...

"LIKE CLOCK-
WORK, BRAINWASH!
HERE THEY
COME!"

DIG WE MUST
GOTHAM
GAS & ELECTR

"GIVE 'EM ENOUGH
TIME TO SPOT YOU,
JAX... THEN COME
DOWN!"

BUT NO SOONER DID THE DYNAMIC DUO FOLLOW
THE "PLANT" WHEN...

"THERE GOES ONE!
A NEW TWIST, ROBIN!
THEY'RE TACKLING
THE BANK FROM
UNDERNEATH!"

"JUST LIKE
THE RATS THEY
ARE! WELL,
THEY'VE SET
THEIR OWN TRAP."

"WE'LL
SPRING
IT!"

"PERFECT!
THEY STOPPED
RIGHT OVER
THIS MANHOLE
COVER!"

AS THE CAPED CRUSADER DESCENDED INTO THE BAITED TRAP...



DECEMBER, 1968

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Model of the Month

AMERICAN SPACE PROGRAM COLLECTOR'S SET

LETTERS TO THE BATCAVE

Dear Editor:

Holy Lorenzo Semple, Jr! That's the first impression I got upon reading *Batman* 205... an issue that concluded the best story printed in *Batman* in years! The reason I mentioned Mr. Semple is because he was the head writer and script consultant for the TV-Batman series, and Frank Robbins' "Blind as a Bat?" story read just like one of Semple's scripts. Take, for example, the melodramatic narration ("What new evil has the Schemer and his malevolent cohorts hatched?"—"After a short sponsor-selected intermission, we shall see!") and the tongue-in-cheek dialogue ("Two... yanks! Which is more than one Britisher... can stand!"). Yet despite these minor trifles, the story came out very well indeed, prompting me to call it, in my own probably-unnoticed opinion, the best story to be found in *Batman* in years (I said the same thing in my opening sentence, but it's worth repeating).

"Operation: Blindfold" and its conclusion "Blind... as a Bat?" had so many good things going for it that they almost couldn't fail to place as a great story. (1) The covers: both 204 and 205 were artistically well laid out and drawn. A thick aura of suspense pervaded both. (2) The titles: These were very good indeed. Let's have more like them. (3) The script: The plot was neatly contrived and well constructed. At least we have a villain who is able to keep one step ahead of *Batman*, to a point where our Gotham Gangbuster has his hands full in just comprehending the entire plot. Of course, one helpful factor was that the two-part format gave the writer 46 pages with which to develop the story-line, rather than just the usual 23-page limit. Author Robbins is to be commended on his very believable, plausible plot. (4) The art: Irv Novick's great talent helped make this story. Novick's outstanding art for *Batman* and *Detective* covers and now this full story has earned him the *Batman* artist-spot previously vacated by the great Carmine Infantino. (5) Less noticeable "extras" were added to improve upon the regular *Batman* format: *Batman* and *Robin* working separately, for instance. The *Dynamic Duo* is supposedly so well-trained that I'd wondered before why they never seemed to split up much in the same story. The inclusion of Alfred, in spite of his somewhat-clumsy dialogue, helped the story also.

All in all, many thanks to Frank Robbins, Irv Novick, Joe Giella and, of course, Ye Editor for a truly great *Batman* adventure!

—Steve Seary, Anne Arundel.

(Now if only the last-paragraph-mentioned Det-team can score with a story devoid of any "minor trifles" at all! Now if only the critic-that-follows saw eye-to-eye with our lead-off, trifle-understanding, correspondent!—Editor)

Dear Editor:

I only caught the last half of the two-issue epic (*Batman* 204-205) that culminated in "Blind... as a Bat?" but it was enough! How anyone could create a story that makes an essentially simple plot sound so complex is beyond me! On top of that, the story was as dull as Aunt Harriet's dlewater. The Schemer is a ridiculously trite villain (Brain-Drahn, the Owl! How cute can you get?) despite his computer-brain, a super-Johnny Witta given to mouthing descriptive phrases like "Fearless Ferret", sporting manes of incredible machin-

ery that would put a missile-base to shame, and possessed of a Bozo the Clown haircut to boot. When a yarn reeks with fixed-frequency receivers, photo-sensitive optical equipment, mini-polaris missiles, and super-sonic detectors, one should not feature a criminal mastermind who goes about talking to birds.

I still do not really know what the issue was about, but some details ~~do~~ stick in my mind. There was a scene on page 3 where *Robin* silently chanted an "immutable law of physics" in place of the more frequent, and certainly more natural "Aughh!"—an obvious exclamation if one is hurtling through the air from an armored truck; a horrible pun 12 pages later involving Alfred, a complaint, and some growls; an even more horrible pun on page 18 that I shudder to recall; and the last panel in the story showing the *Dynamic Duo* and Commissioner Gordon wearing Foster Grants.

But most vivid of all my impressions was the staggering amount of wordage employed: descriptions where none was needed, comments where silence would have been preferred (!), drawn-out Latinisms, and hopelessly unnatural dialogue. Luckily, femme-fan Irene Vartanoff saved the issue with her short-and-to-the-point observations in the lettercol.

—Rand B. Lee, Roxbury, Conn.

Dear Editor:

Concerning *Batman* 205: I don't know why, but I liked it. It was not really all that different from any other recent *Batman* story, but there was something about it that made me like it more than most of the recent issues. The plot-line had some original twists, but nothing special. The dialogue, although interesting and alive, was not that different from past issues. The artwork was its usual competent self. So what did I find so attractive about this issue?

It was that indefinable quality called FRANK ROBBINS. Mr. Robbins did it with a recent two-part *Flash* story and now he has done it again with this *Batman* yarn. As I said, I cannot put my finger on any one thing in his writings that makes them good; he just has a certain style that sets him apart from other writers. What I'm trying to say is—"Thank you, Mr. Robbins, for an enjoyable *Batman* tale!"

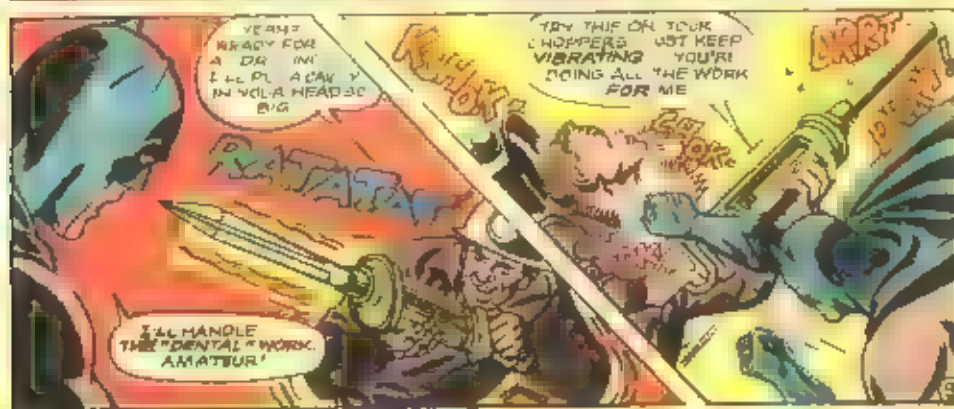
Just a brief word about the art. The cover was one of the best I've seen on a *Batman* for a long time. Were Irv Novick and Joe Giella responsible for it as well as the inside art? The only change I'd have recommended would be to leave out the figure in the lower left-hand corner. I feel he distracted somewhat from the effect. The inking inside was just the way it should be for a *Batman* story, slightly dark and mysterious.

In conclusion, I would like to mention the two qualities I think a good *Batman* story should have: mysterious (as in unknown qualities) and mystery (as in detection).

—Kenneth Cochran, Winnipeg, Man., Can.

(The *Batman* cover was all-Novick, as contrasted to the interior art which was Novick pencilled and Giella-inked.—Editor)

Address communications to LETTERS TO THE BATCAVE, National Periodical Publications, 575 Lexington Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022.



A THIS BALL GAME
I MAKE HE RULES
THEY'RE UP AND
DOWN OUT!

PLOK!

PANIC STRICKEN TWO OTHERS TURNED
TO SEE

THESE
WILL STAY
PUT, ROBIN!
IT'S NAB THE
RUNAWAYS

BATMAN
THEY'RE GET-
TING AWAY!

HEM... ER
HOW FAST THEY GO
THE BATMOBILE
IS FASTER

HOME
BATCAVE!

BUT AS THE
MASKED
MANHUNTER
TURNED THE
IGNITION
KEY

MUST

GO

ROBIN
LET'S GO
HOME AT ONCE
NOTHING MUST
STOP US

NO IF A
LIFELINE

AT LEAST
WEARING
COST MEAS

MY SUB VIMINAL
THOUGHT CONTROL BUG
IS WORKING, MAX! THEY'VE
FORGOTTEN ALL ABOUT US
AND SOON WE CAN
FORGET THEM
FOREVER!

NOW
BACK TO
THE BANK
VAULT
WHERE WE
CAN WORK
IN LEAPFROG

AND SO, AS WE'VE SEEN
EARLIER, THE DYNAMIC
DUO ENTERED THE SECRET
ELEVATOR, AND AS
IT ROSE

BATMAN,
WE CAN'T
GO UPSTAIRS
THIS WAY

YOU'RE
RIGHT, ROBIN!
IF ANYONE
OTHER THAN
ALFRED CAN
USE THE
WE OBLIVIOUSLY
DOWN
WE GO

WHAT
INSANE
SCENE IS
THIS?

WE'RE
IN THE
AFRICAN
JUNGLE

BRANK!

RACAR!

SNATCHING
OFF HIS CAPE,
THE TEEN TITAN
FLUNG ABOUT
THE HEAD OF
THE CHARGING
BEAST

IT'S IMPOSSIBLE! BUT
THIS IS NO TIME FOR
SAND DEBOUTOIR!

SOON
BATMAN
BUTTER UP

WE'LL
COLLECT OUR
WITS AND (HOPE THIS
DEVILISH DILEMMA OUT

IF A DOUBLE PRECALTION
I AM SOUNDING THE RED
ALERT FOR ALFRED
TO REE US WHEN WE
COME OUT ABOVE

8-BATMAN
I'M SCARED!

CAN'T SAY
I'M KEEPING
MY COOL EITHER,
ROBIN! MAYBE
IN THE CALM OF
OUR HOME

UP
DOWN
RED ALERT

BL*... THEY REACH THEIR SAFE HAVEN AND THE DOOR OPENS

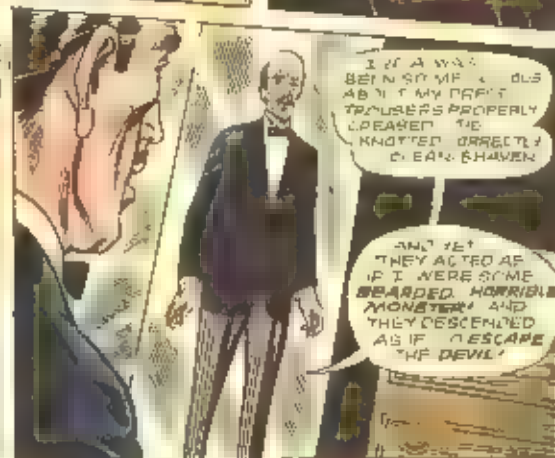


SWIFTLY SMITTING OUT THE DEADLY MENACE... IT'S DEAD END FOR THE SFC...
T.M.F.

HIS...
B.B.T. WERE...
HEADING DOWN...
INTO THE SAME...
HORROR...
EMERGENCY STOP...
BUTTON



WHILE ABOVE



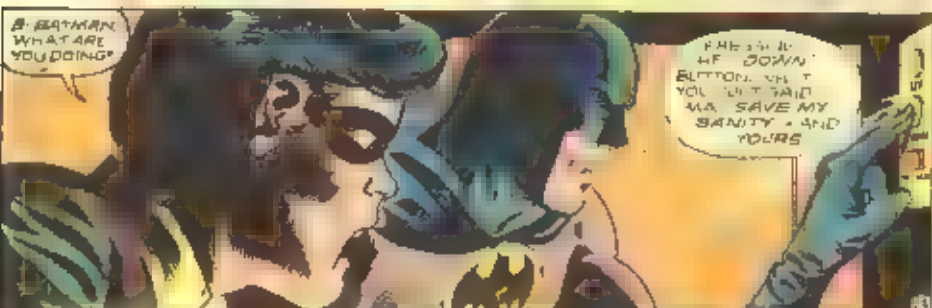
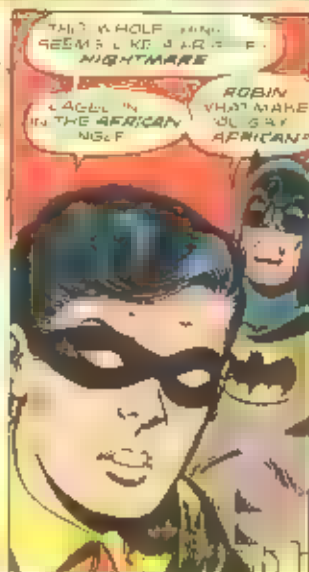
AND YET...
THEY ACTED AS IF I WERE SOME BEARDED HORRIBLE MONSTER! AND THEY DESCENDED AS IF TO ESCAPE THE DEVIL!

WHILE BELOW THE GOTHAM NATIONAL BANK



NOT A CHANCE JAX! ACCORDING TO MY CALCULATIONS, ABOUT NOW THE I SHOULD BE SLOWLY GOING OFF THEIR ROCKER TRAPPED IN THEIR OWN ELEVATOR

AN ELEVATOR I'VE DEDUCED THEY MUST USE TO LEAVE THEIR BATTLE!

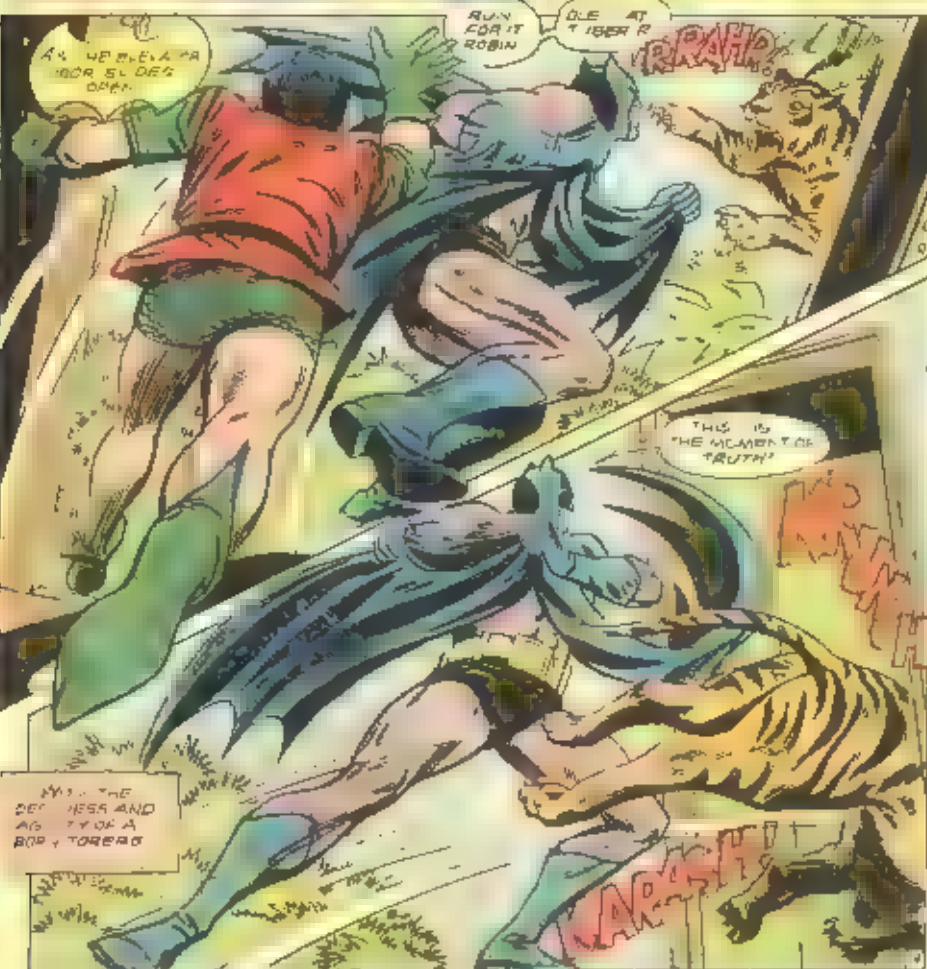


3 SAVE OUR RAT TY 3
7 YOU'RE FEELING THE
A RA'S JUNG TIGER BEUP
14 REG A T HAT 2
3ANED

9 AND BA H 3
43 IF F IM 31 DEAT
10 OLD FOR THE BAT
MOBIE? WE E GOT
1 GET TO HAY CAR

10. E C T. DE

SECRET
ENTRANCE DOOR
TO BATCAVE WAS
CLOSED WHILE
THEY HAVEN'T LEFT



45 WE BELA PA
100R EL DES
OPEA

RUN FOR IT
ROBIN

DE AT
TIGER R

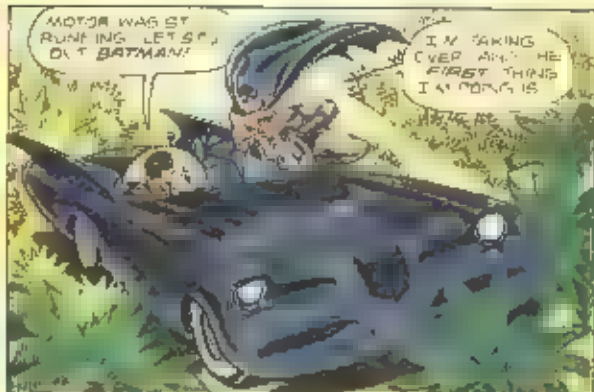
CRASH!

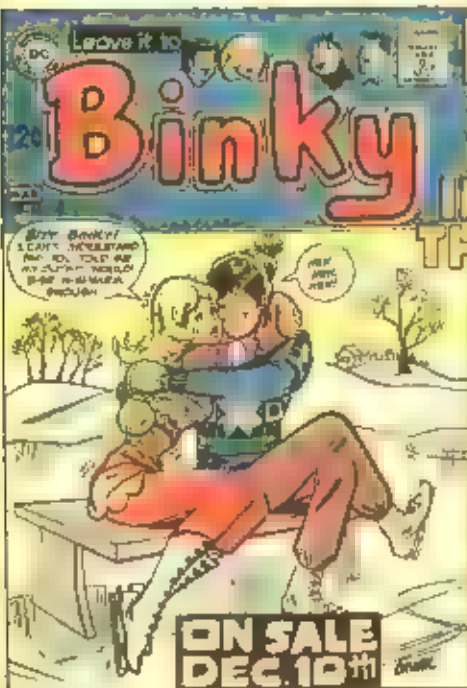
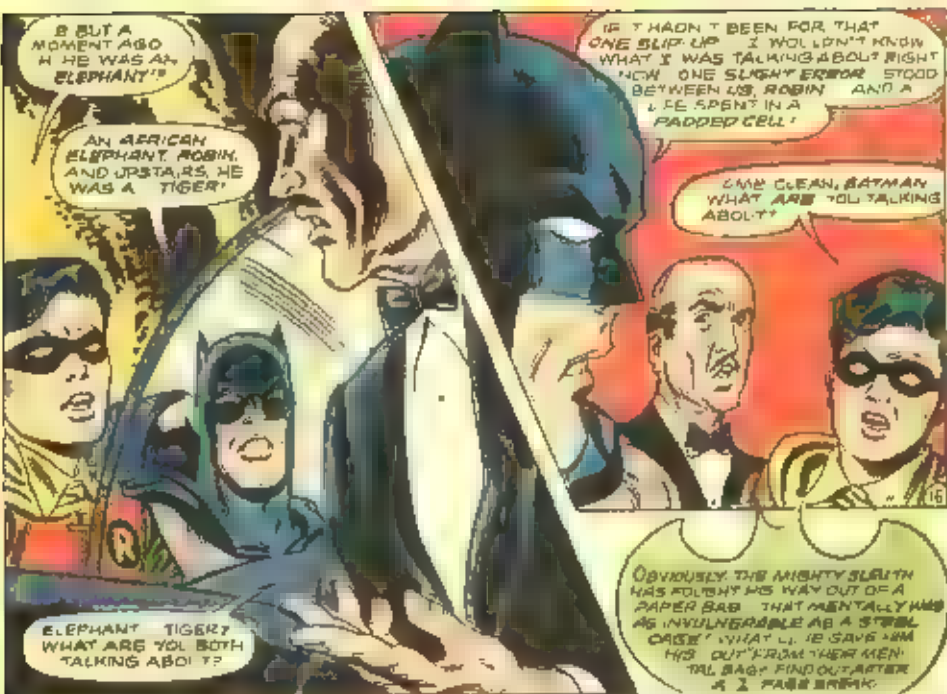
THIS IS
"THE MOMENT OF
TRUTH"

THIS
MOMENT
OF
TRUTH

THIS IS THE
DECISION AND
AG TUCK A
BOY TO TIGERS

KARASH!





WELL TRYING TO TELL ME WE ONLY IMAGINED THOSE JUNGLE MONSTERS! BUT WE BOTH

YES ROBIN, WE BOTH SAW WHA SOME ONE WANTED US TO SEE!

THIS WAS ALL PART OF A MAD PLOT TO DRIVE US MAD!

BUT YOUR AGILITY EVEN IN YOUR CONFUSED STATE, ROBIN GAVE ME THE ONE REAL LUCID STRAW TO HANG ONTO AS I WAS BEING DRAWN INTO THIS NIGHT-MARISH WEB

THANKS FOR THE KUDOS BATMAN, BUT BELIEVE EVERYTHING I SAW AND SAID

PRECISELY! AND WHEN YOU IDENTIFIED THAT ELEPHANT CORRECTLY AS AFRICAN I KNEW WE COULDN'T BE IN A REAL JUNGLE

BECAUSE TIGERS DON'T EXIST IN THE AFRICAN JUNGLE, NOR AFRICAN ELEPHANTS IN THE INDIAN JUNGLE. THE TIGER'S NATURAL HABITAT

RATHER! ANY SILLY BLIGHTER WOULD KNOW THAT

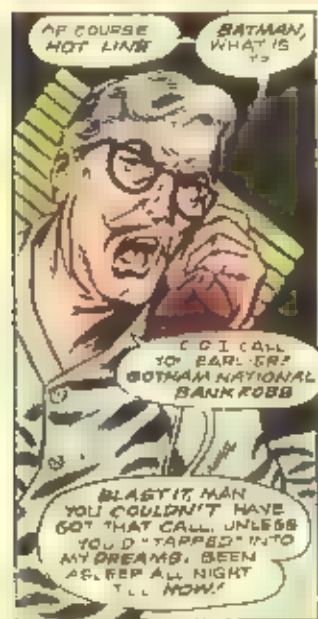
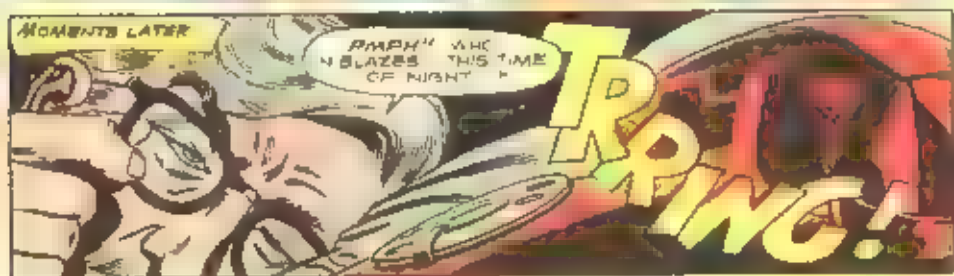
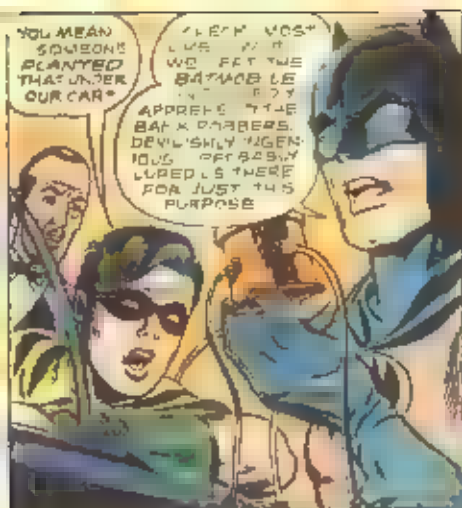
AN' I'LLY BLIGHTER BUT THE EVIL GENIUS WHO RIGGED UP THIS SCHEME SOMEHOW WE PLANTED IMAGES IN OUR MINDS THAT WERE BASED ON HIS OWN IGNORANCE

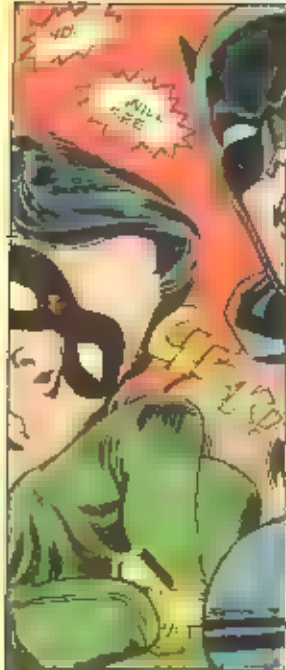
ALL OF A SUDDEN WE THOUGHT IT IMPERATIVE TO GET HOME! AND THAT THOUGHT CAME AFTER I SWITCHED ON THE IGNITION.

AND COULD I SOME SORT OF ELECTRONIC DEVICE WIRED INTO OUR IGNITION SYSTEM

ONLY THING TONIGHT THAT'S MADE SENSE BATMAN! BUT WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?

WHILE WE WERE TRAPPED IN THE ELEVATOR I TRACKED BACK ON OUR ACTIVITIES TOUGHT YOU REMEMBER WE WERE ABOUT TO CHASE THOSE SEWER RATS WHEN





NOT ME TO DISCONNECT
BEEPER'S DIABOLICAL DEVICE
THESE CAN PLUGS FROM MY
UTILITY-BELT ARE OUR ONLY
PROTECTION WHILE THE
IGNITION IS ON



WHILE IN THE UNDERGROUND VAULT
OF THE GOTHAM NATIONAL BANK:

BEAUTIFUL JOB
FINGERS, YOU
TRIPPED THOSE
TUMBLERS LIKE
YOU KNEW THE
COMBINATION!
ADVANCE LIKE
A CLEAN JOB
NO NITRO, NO MESS

WHILE YOU'RE
WESS VS OUT MEDALS,
BRAINWASH DOWN!
FORGET ME? IF THE
WIZARD HADN'T GUS
ARMED THE ALARM
SYSTEM FIRST

YOU CAN ALL HAVE MEDALS AFTER
WE DIPPY UP MADE OF SOLID
GOLD! BUT REMEMBER
WE COULDN'T HAVE
PULLED THIS OFF
KEEP AND CLEAR

I HAVEN'T
RIGGED IT YET
BATMAN AND
ROBIN! UNDEL
IF YOU RAPPED
CELL NO. HO!



BUT SUDDENLY

NEVER
COULD FEEL
COMFORTABLE
IN "UPHOLSTERED"
ROCK'S BEEPER
WE'RE COMING
FOR YOU



BATMAN AND
ROBIN?

NICE TRY, BUT YOU
BLEW. HE'S NOT
IT'S OUR TURN

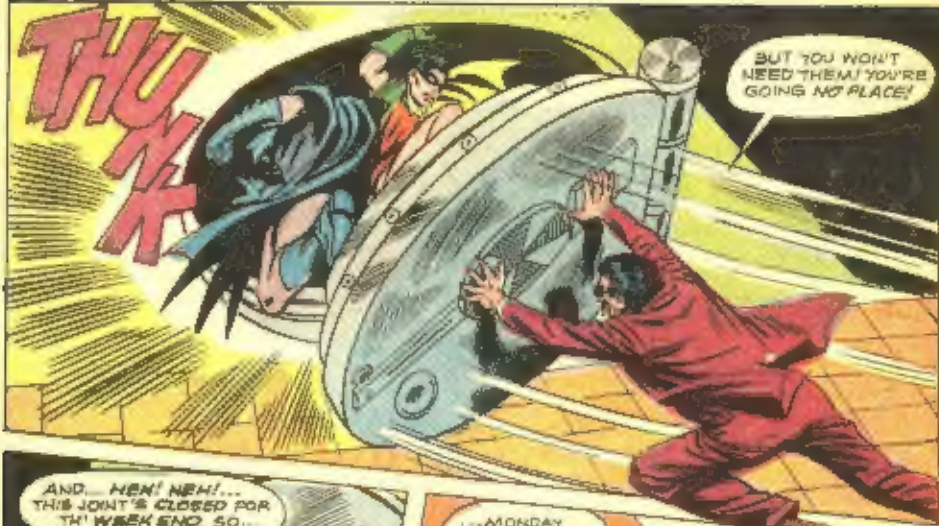
BRAINWASH
I THOUGHT
YOU HAD EM
ALL TIED UP
IN STRAIT
JACKETS



BUT BRAT
OF ACTION & THE
STEE. OF ME







BUT YOU WON'T
NEED THEM! YOU'RE
GOING NO PLACE!



AND... HEH! HEH!...
THIS JOINT'S CLOSED FOR
TH' WEEK END, SO...



...MONDAY
MORNING WILL
BE MONDAY MORN-
ING FOR BATMAN
AND ROBIN!



SO IT AIN'T A PADDED
CELL... BUT IT'S JUST AS
ESCAPE-PROOF!

THE BATMOBILE!
I-- I MUST BE GOING
OFF MY ROCKER!

SCREECH



THEN... BEFORE THE DUMFONDED CRIMINAL CAN
MAKE A MOVE, THE CAPED CRUSADERS MAKE
THEIR...

JUST AS WE
THOUGHT! UNDER
THIS PHONEY SET-UP
...ESPER!

I-- I AM MAD!
THIS CAN'T BE
HAPPENING...
IT-- IT'S A
DELUSION!

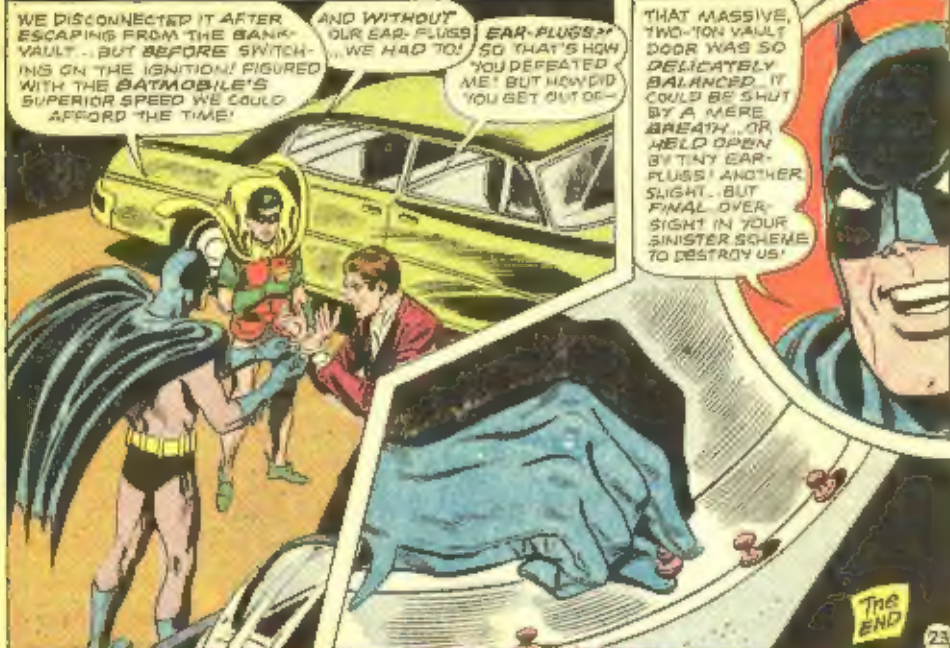
THIS TIME IT'S
FOR REAL, ESPER!
YOUR "THOUGHT-
CONTROL" BUG
JUST QUIT!

WE DISCONNECTED IT AFTER ESCAPING FROM THE BANK VAULT... BUT BEFORE SWITCHING ON THE IGNITION! FIGURED WITH THE BATMOBILE'S SUPERIOR SPEED WE COULD AFFORD THE TIME!

AND WITHOUT OUR EAR-PLUGS WE HAD TO!

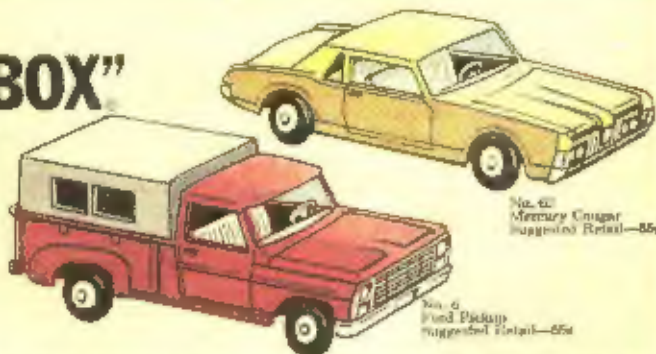
EAR-PLUGS? SO THAT'S HOW YOU DEFEATED ME! BUT HOW DID YOU GET OUT OF—

THAT MASSIVE, TWO-TON VAULT DOOR WAS SO DELICATELY BALANCED... IT COULD BE SHUT BY A MERE BREATH... OR HELD OPEN BY TINY EAR-PLUGS! ANOTHER SLIGHT... BUT FINAL OVERSIGHT IN YOUR SINISTER SCHEME TO DESTROY US!



ERUPTING IN THE NEXT ISSUE --
THE BATTLE OF THE SEXES --
AS BATMAN FIGHTS CATWOMAN AND HER
FELINE FURIES in
"THE CASE OF THE PURR-LOINED PEARL!"

NEW "MATCHBOX" MODELS OF THE MONTH.



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Mercury Cougar
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ANYTHING THOSE BIG DETROIT GUYS DO, "MATCHBOX" DOES SMALLER. Check out the new Mercury Cougar and Ford Pickup. These two really look like the real thing. Only smaller. Parts really move. Doors open. The first even has a trunk. These two new models are ready to roll now. And to really be a "MATCHBOX" expert, write for free catalogue.

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FACT FILE

The golden age GREEN LANTERN appeared in All-American Comics No. 16 (July, 1940) through No. 102 (October, 1948). He next appeared, in a story of his own, in issue No. 2 (Fall, 1940) of All-Star Comics, and when the Justice Society Of America was formed in the very next issue of All-Star, he became a member of that organization. GL appeared as a JSA member in issues No. 3 through No. 7, No. 10, No. 24, and issues No. 28 through No. 37, (Feb.-Mar., 1951). The Green Lantern comic ran from issue No. 1 (Autumn, 1941) through issue No. 38 (May-Jun., 1949). Green Lantern also appeared in Comic Cavalcade from issue No. 1 (Winter, 1942-43) through issue No. 28 (Oct.-Nov., 1948). GL appeared in the one-shot special Big All-American Comic Book issues in 1944, and made a guest appearance in a Flash story in All-Flash No. 14 (Spring, 1944).

Green Lantern first appeared in All-American Comics No. 16 in an origin sequence written by Bill Finger and with art by Martin Nodell. This story related how Alan Scott, a construction engineer, was a passenger aboard a locomotive making a test run over a trestle, newly constructed by Scott's company. A sudden explosion destroys the structure, tumbling the train to the canyon floor far below. Amid the train's twisted wreckage lies the body of Alan Scott, somehow unharmed, although all of his fellow passengers have been killed. Clutched in his hand is a green storm lantern, which had been a fixture on the now demolished train. As the semi-conscious form of the young engineer lies unmoving, the green lantern begins to flare with an intense green light, from within which an ageless, oneless voice commences to relate the strange history of the lantern.

The Voice tells of a huge meteor which had come to land in Ancient China, many years before. Upon crashing, the meteorite broke open, revealing a small pool of flaming, liquid green metal, which cast an eerie green light over the figures of the gathering spectators. The strange flames spoke unto the people, prophesying, "Three times shall I flame green! First—to bring death! Second—to bring life! Third—to bring power!" When the metal had cooled, only Chang, the Lamp Maker, of all the superstitious throng, dared approach the mystic meteorite. Taking the metallic residue back to his workshop, Chang proceeded to fashion a lamp of the material. The people, fearing the magic powers of the lamp, attacked and killed the lamp maker, whereupon the lamp flared with a strange green light, killing the assassins. Thus was the first part of the prophecy fulfilled. During the ensuing years, the lamp passed through many hands in many lands, until it finally reached America where the old Chinese lamp was given to an inmate of an asylum for the insane, who worked in metal craft as therapy. It was he who reworked the lamp into the train's lantern shape it now possessed. As he was finishing his work on the lantern, it once again glowed green, this time curing the patient of his mental illness, giving him new life, and thereby fulfilling the second part of the prophecy.

Now the lantern was to bring about the final part of the prophecy by bestowing the gift of power on Alan Scott. Telling Alan to use his power for the purpose of combatting evil, the Voice further instructs him to fashion a ring from the metal of the lantern, and that touching the ring to the green lantern will charge the ring with 24 hours of power. With this, Alan Scott awakes from his state of semi-consciousness and, glancing about at all the dead

bodies of his companions, swears to find out who was behind the sabotage, and bring him to justice. This he does in short course when, with the aid of his newly-made power ring, he makes the head of a rival construction company, whose bid for the trestle contract Alan's company had won out over, confess the crime.

Having completed this first mission, Alan Scott muses, "If I must fight evil beings, I must make myself a dreaded figure! I must have a costume that is so bizarre that once I am seen I will never be forgotten!" Thus was the costume and guise of Green Lantern created.

Issue No. 21 of All-American Comics saw Alan Scott become a radio engineer for the Gotham Broadcasting Company. He would later become an announcer for the company, and, eventually, its president. Issue No. 21 of All-American also served to introduce Doiby Dickles, the derby-wearing, little cab-driver who was to become GL's aide and confidant for the duration of the feature. In issue No. 35 of All-American, he discovered Green Lantern's true identity, but was sworn to secrecy. Doiby provided the comic-relief element for the strip, often giving GL more hindrance than help, but always with the best of intentions.

During his career, Green Lantern fought a wide array of crooks and menaces, most notable among which were Solomon Grundy, Vandal Savage, The Sky Pirate, Sportsmaster, The Gambler, and The Icicle. No listing of GL's opponents could be complete without mention of his female foe, The Harlequin. Harlequin, in reality Molly Mayne, Alan Scott's secretary, was a rather unique villainess in that she committed crimes, not for any profit, but only as a means of gaining the Emerald Gladiator's attention. Somewhat shaky logic perhaps, but who ever said a woman thinks logically? Although they had many a fast and furious encounter, neither was ever quite able to best the other, and their contests usually ended in draws. The topser to the whole frenzied series came in issue No. 34 of Green Lantern, when GL discovered that his formidable foe-woman was in reality Agent H-8, working undercover for the Justice Bureau. However, he never did discover The Harlequin's secret identity.

Also worth mentioning is Streak, The Wonder Dog, who first appeared in Green Lantern No. 30, and who became GL's canine aide in several stories. Aside from appearing in the Green Lantern strip, Streak also starred in solo adventures in his own strip, which ran in Green Lantern No. 34 through No. 37, and in Sensation Comics No. 91 through No. 93.

Since the revival of the Earth-Two super-heroes, the Golden Age Green Lantern has been seen in sporadic guest appearances in several issues of Justice League Of America and the new Green Lantern's magazine.

